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NEWS

Air Pollution

EPA Extends Comment Period on Regional Haze Revision

The comment period on the Environmental Protection Agency's proposed revisions to its regional haze regulations will be extended from July 5 to Aug. 10, according to a notice to be published in the Federal Register July 1. ...

Air Pollution

VW, EPA Continue Work on Fix for Remaining Diesel Cheats

Volkswagen AG and U.S. regulators told a federal judge considering the milestone deal covering a half-million diesel emissions-cheating cars that they will need months to review a possible fix for 85,000 more vehicles with larger...

Air Pollution

VW Faces Challenge in Getting Over-Emitting Cars Off Road

The proposed Volkswagen diesel settlement includes up to \$10 billion in compensation for car owners and lessees, but consumer advocates said it will be a challenge for the automaker to get better-than-average participation in the settlement...

Biotechnology

GMO Labeling Bill Clears First Senate Challenge

A vote in the Senate has set the stage for the chamber to take up legislation that would create a nationwide standard for labeling foods made with genetically modified organisms....

Budget

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House Panel Tees Up Floor Action on EPA Spending

The House Rules Committee is aiming to consider legislation to fund the Interior Department and the Environmental Protection Agency the week of July 11, the committee said in a June 30 statement....

Chemicals

Amended Law Affecting New Chemicals' Market Entry

Changes recently made to the Toxic Substances Control Act may delay chemical manufacturers' ability to bring new chemicals to market, policy analysts say....

Chemicals

Chemical Firms Abandon Merger Deal After FTC Raises Objections

Chemical companies Superior Plus Corp. and Canexus Corp. said they have decided to abandon a merger deal in the wake of antitrust concerns raised by the Federal Trade Commission....

Chemicals

EPA to Use Rolling Process to Review Chemicals in Commerce

The amended U.S. chemicals statute doesn't envision the Environmental Protection Agency reviewing all chemicals in commerce at once to determine whether they are high or low priorities for risk evaluations, a senior EPA official said...

Chemicals

IG to Chemical Safety Board: Launch More Investigations

The U.S. Chemical Safety and Hazard Investigation Board still needs to boost employee morale, investigate more chemical incidents and promulgate a long-delayed regulation, according to a report from the Environmental Protection Agency's...

Chemicals

Japan to Expand Endocrine Disruptor Research

Japan's Ministry of the Environment will update and expand its scientific research program for identifying potential endocrine disruptors, a ministry official told Bloomberg BNA June 28....

Climate Regulation

Murray Sues EPA Over Power Plant Reconsideration Denial

Murray Energy Corp. is challenging the Environmental Protection Agency's denial of petitions to reconsider its carbon dioxide standards for new power plants in the latest legal broadside on the agency's climate change efforts...

Climate Regulation

White House Reviewing Final Part of EPA's Methane Push

Guidelines that would help reduce emissions of volatile organic compounds from select existing oil and natural gas industry sources are now under review by the White House Office of Management and Budget. ...

Coal Mining

Interior Closes Leasing Royalty Loophole

The Interior Department is changing the way it calculates the royalties it collects when companies sell fossil fuels extracted from federal land, under a final rule issued by Interior June 30....

Energy

Canadian Court Overturns Enbridge Pipeline Approval

A Canadian court overturned federal government approval of Enbridge Inc.'s C\$7.9 billion (\$6.1 billion) Northern Gateway pipeline project connecting the Alberta oil sands to the country's West Coast. ...

Energy

Nuclear Industry Calls for More Action From FERC

The nuclear industry said the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission has to act faster on making price formation fixes to the wholesale energy markets that could help the struggling nuclear industry in the deregulated energy markets....

Enforcement

DOT Boosts Fines for Pipeline Safety Violations

Maximum civil penalties issued by the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration for pipeline safety violations would increase by as much as \$25,000 per violation under an interim final rule (RIN:2137-AF16) set to become effective...

Enforcement

Northwest Territories Audit Seeks New Enforcement Tools

The Northwest Territories' (NWT) first environmental audit following devolution of power from the federal government said the territories' environmental protection regime needs greater enforcement tools, including monetary...

Enforcement

Rule to Raise Civil Penalties With Inflation Adjustment

Civil penalties under environmental and safety laws will increase under a new rule that goes into effect Aug. 1....

Hazardous Waste

EPA Boosts Savings Projection for E-Manifest System

The Environmental Protection Agency's hazardous waste electronic manifest system is likely to save industry roughly \$100 million, a sum that is \$25 million more than previous projections, EPA spokeswoman Melissa Harrison told Bloomberg...

Hazardous Waste

Primary School Toxic Waste Plaintiffs Must Show Causation

Plaintiffs alleging a plume of toxic waste migrated to an elementary school must make preliminary causation showings before their claims may proceed, a federal court ruled (*Trujillo v. Ametek, Inc.*, 2016 BL 209718, S.D. Cal., No. 15-CV-1394,...

International Climate

U.K. to Double Scale of Carbon Dioxide Cuts to Meet Goal

The U.K. government adopted climate targets that require it to double the pace of reducing pollution from fossil fuels by 2032,

indicating the next government will have to move beyond widespread adoption of renewables to meet the target....

Oil & Gas

Triangle USA Petroleum Files for Bankruptcy

Triangle USA Petroleum Corp., an oil and gas explorer working one of the largest shale oil reservoirs in North America, filed for bankruptcy with a plan to restructure that will keep its parent company out of Chapter 11 (In re Triangle USA Petroleum...

Pesticides

EPA Asks Court for Extension of Pesticide Deadline

The Environmental Protection Agency told a federal appeals court it likely won't be able to meet an upcoming court-ordered deadline to enact a ban on a widely used Dow Chemical Co. pesticide (Pesticide Action Network N. Am. v. EPA, 9th Cir.,...

Pesticides

EU Publishes Extension of Glyphosate Authorization

The European Commission published a regulation June 30 that extends through Dec. 31, 2017, the European Union authorization for glyphosate, the world's top herbicide by volume. ...

Pipeline Safety

PHMSA Seeking Comment on Regulating Carbon Dioxide Pipelines

The Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration is seeking comment on how gaseous carbon dioxide pipelines should be regulated as it seeks to craft safety standards for transporting carbon dioxide by pipe....

Recycling

EU Seeks Data on End-of-Life Vehicles That Vanish

The European Commission is calling for comments through Sept. 21 on why some 4 million obsolete vehicles go unaccounted for in the European Union each year, instead of being dismantled and recycled as required by the European Union End-of-Life...

Regulatory Policy

When Is a Guidance Document a Rule Change?

A bipartisan pair of senators is looking to solve a complex policy equation that would allow federal agencies to issue true guidance documents for clarity but prevent them from making substantive rule changes—all without undue delay....

Renewable Energy

Google Buying 236 Megawatts of Wind Power for EU Centers

Google, the biggest corporate buyer of clean energy in the U.S., agreed to purchase 236 megawatts of capacity from two wind farms under development in Norway and Sweden....

Renewable Energy

Solar Projects Expected to Peak in 2019: Attorney

A peak year for construction on solar projects will be 2019, an attorney told an audience at a renewable energy webinar....

Solid Waste

Indiana Proposes Rules for Coal Ash

The Indiana Department of Environmental Management is expected to implement a new emergency rule this August that will determine how coal ash is disposed in the state....

Storage Tanks

EPA Removes Storage Tanks on Navajo Reservation

Two underground storage tanks were removed from the former Smith Lake Trading Post on the Navajo reservation as part of efforts to get rid of tanks that may contaminate groundwater, the Environmental Protection Agency said June 30. ...

Superfund

Superfund Litigation Tracker: Airborne Deposits, FOIA

Litigators await a ruling by the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit on whether airborne deposits of hazardous substances constitute disposal under the Superfund law (Pakootas v. Teck Cominco Metals Ltd., 9th Cir., No. 15-35228, 4/6/16)....

Water Infrastructure

Inhofe Tries Again to Push Water Resources Bill

Sen. James Inhofe (R-Okla.) made one more pitch for quick action by the full Senate on the Water Resources Development Act of 2016 (S. 2848), with the help of a letter signed by 29 Republican senators....

Water Pollution

British Columbia to Release Results on Aquifer Soil Testing

Under a seldom used section of British Columbia law to protect the public interest, the province's information and privacy commissioner June 29 ordered the government to release soil test results related to a contaminated aquifer. ...

Water Pollution

Large Agribusinesses Polluting Waterways, Report Alleges

Five agribusinesses, responsible for about 44 percent of the pork, chicken and beef produced in the nation, discharged about 250.8 million pounds of toxic pollutants between 2010 and 2014 into the nation's waterways, a new report said....

REGULATORY AGENDA

Comment Deadlines

JULY 1 FEDERAL REGISTER

JUNE 30 FEDERAL REGISTER

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